



Brownfields 2005 Grant Fact Sheet

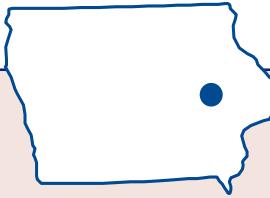
Marion, IA

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The City of Marion was selected to receive a brownfields cleanup grant. Marion (population 26,294) experienced economic growth and a significant population increase throughout the 1990s. However, this growth occurred on the city's fringes, resulting in economic and environmental decline in the city's Central Corridor, the target area. Some manufacturing in the Central Corridor has relocated to the city's fringe, while a large salvage facility and a concrete batching plant remain. There are an estimated 69 unregulated facilities, 45 underground storage tanks, and 25 leaking underground storage tanks within one mile of the Central Corridor. In this target area, 17 percent of the population lives below the poverty level, and neighborhoods include a higher percentage of low-



New
2005

Cleanup Grant

\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Marion for a brownfields cleanup grant. Grant funds will be used to conduct cleanup operations and community outreach activities for the Canadian National Railroad Company's abandoned alignment site located in the Central Corridor Revitalization Project area. The site was used as a railroad alignment and maintenance facility dating back to the 1880s.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 7 Brownfields Team
913-551-7646

<http://www.epa.gov/Region7/citizens/brownfields/index.htm>

Grant Recipient: City of Marion, IA
319-377-1581

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

income, elderly residents who are vulnerable to the adverse conditions created by the manufacturing and industrial land uses. The cleanup site is a former railway alignment that parallels 6th Avenue. When the site is cleaned up, the city plans to build a new City Hall building at the western end of the property. Cleanup will also improve the living conditions for adjacent residential areas, attract private sector investment and jobs, link community facilities through a network of parks and trails, and encourage the redevelopment of sites within the Central Corridor.